

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
WESTERN DIVISION AT DAYTON**

RAMONA CHAPPEL,	:	
Plaintiff,	:	Case No. 3:12cv0080
vs.	:	District Judge Thomas M. Rose
		Chief Magistrate Judge Sharon L. Ovington
CAROLYN W. COLVIN,	:	
Commissioner of the Social	:	
Security Administration,	:	
Defendant.	:	

DECISION AND ENTRY

This case is before the Court upon the parties' Stipulation For Award Of Attorney Fees Under The Equal Access To Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. §2412 (Doc. #19). The parties have stipulated to an award of attorney fees, costs, and expenses to Plaintiff in the amount of \$2,000.00. Under the parties' Stipulation, any EAJA fees paid belong to Plaintiff and not her attorney and can be offset to satisfy pre-existing debt that Plaintiff owes the United States pursuant to *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. ___, 130 S.Ct. 2521, 177 L.Ed.2d 91 (2010).

Accordingly, the Court hereby **ORDERS** that:

1. The parties' Stipulation For Award Of Attorney Fees Under The Equal Access To Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. §2412 (Doc. #19) is accepted, and the Commissioner shall pay Plaintiff's attorney fees, costs, and expenses under

28 U.S.C. §2412 in the total amount of \$2,000.00;

2. Defendant shall verify, **within thirty days of this Decision and Order,** whether or not Plaintiff owes a pre-existing debt to the United States subject to offset. If no such pre-existing debt exists, Defendant shall pay the EAJA award directly to Plaintiff's counsel;
3. Plaintiff's Motion For Attorney Fees Under The Equal Access To Justice Act (Doc. # 17) is DENIED as moot; and
4. The case remains terminated on the docket of this Court.

March 26, 2013

***s/THOMAS M. ROSE**

Thomas M. Rose
United States District Judge